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PATENT
37904-0054

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Tatsuhiko Sato
Serial No. : 10/824,337
Filed : April 13, 2004
For : METHOD FOR PRODUCING QUARTZ GLASS JIG AND
QUARTZ GLASS JIG
Art Unit : 1731
Examiner : Phu H. Nguyen

Mailstop AF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

COMMUNICATION BEFORE INTERVIEW

Sir:

This communication is being submitted preparatory to an interview for the above captioned application.

Status of claim rejections

Independent Claims 1 to 4 and all their dependent claims 5-8, 12-15, 17-20, and 22-25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant's admitted prior art, asserted to be combined with Butterbaugh et al. (U.S. patent 6,124,211), and Honma (JP 07-183240), and (for dependent claims 9, 16, 21, and 26) further combined with Hays (U.S. patent 3,511,727).

A double-patenting objection is expressed to claim 26 which is the same as claim 21.

Issues for interview

The issues to be discussed at the interview are requested to include:

1. the propriety of the combination of Butterbaugh with the description of the prior art expressed at page 1 and 2 of the present application.
2. the propriety of the combination of Honma with the other prior art of the rejection.
3. amendment of claim 26 to depend from claim 22 instead of claim 17 from which it now depends due to a typographical error.

Respectfully submitted,



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